

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Coated powder, consisting of ~~comprising~~ a metallic Ti-bearing core and a metallic Ni-bearing coating, characterised by a Ni:Ti atomic ratio of more than 0.5, preferably between 0.9 and 1.1, ~~and more preferably between 0.96 and 1.04.~~

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Powder mixture comprising coated powder according to claim 1, further comprising one or both of Ni-bearing powder and Ti-bearing powder, wherein the Ni:Ti atomic ratio of the mixture is between 0.96 and 1.04, ~~preferably between 0.99 and 1.01.~~

Claim 4 (Previously presented): Coated powder according to claim 1, characterized by a particle size finer than 150 mesh.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Previously presented): A sintered body obtainable by a self-propagating high temperature process using powders according to claim 1.

Claims 8-12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (New): The coated powder of claim 1, wherein the Ni:Ti atomic ratio of the mixture is between between 0.99 and 1.01.